

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 SOE-02 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO DOE WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5626

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 05697

USEEC, PARIS FOR OECD

DOE FOR J. VANDERRY/IA, AND E. KINTNER/MF

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, TECH, EEC

SUBJECT: IEA IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT ON INTENSE NEUTRON

- SOURCE

1. DR. DONATO PALUMBO, DIRECTOR OF EC FUSION PROGRAM, HAS ASKED MISSION FOR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF THE U.S. INTENSE NEUTRON SOURCE (INS) PROJECT AND, ASSUMING THAT PROJECT IS CANCELLED, THE EFFECT ON THE EXISTING IEA IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT.

2. HE HAS RECEIVED A COPY OF THE FEBRUARY 21 CABLE FROM E. KINTNER TO W. LOMER (UK) WHICH INDICATED THE HIGH PROBABILITY OF TERMINATION OF THE INS PROJECT. HE IS ANXIOUS TO RECEIVE OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF THE STATUS OF INS SO THAT, IF IT HAS IN FACT BEEN TERMINATED, HE CAN BEGIN ALTERNATE PLANNING. TO THIS END, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WOULD BE HELPFUL:

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A. IS THE INS PROJECT NOW OFFICIALLY TERMINATED? IF NOT, WHEN WILL DECISION BE MADE?

B. THE EC WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EITHER THE TRITIUM LAB PROJECT AT LOS ALAMOS OR THE FMIT PROJECT AT HANFORD AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE INS PROJECT. WHAT IS THE STATUS (FUNDING AND SCHEDULES) OF THESE TWO PROJECTS?

WOULD EC PARTICIPATION IN THE TRITIUM LAB PROJECT BE
ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S., OR WOULD THERE BE SECURITY
CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTIONS?

C. FOR EITHER OF THE TWO ALTERNATE PROJECTS, WHAT TYPE OF
EC PARTICIPANTS (I.E., PHYSICISTS, METALLURGISTS,
HYDRODYNAMIC ENGINEERS, ETC.) WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE?

D. DR. PALUMBO BELIEVES THAT THERE WILL HAVE TO BE A NEW
IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED TO REPLACE THE PRES-
ENT INS AGREEMENT. THIS WILL TAKE TIME (EC COUNCIL
APPROVAL IS NECESSARY). DOES THE U.S. SEE ANY PROBLEM
IN PROCEEDING INTO COOPERATION ON A NEW PROJECT ON THE
BASIS OF AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WHILE THE NEW AGREEMENT
IS BEING NEGOTIATED? IN ANY SUCH NEW AGREEMENT, HE
WOULD LIKE TO INCORPORATE A STEERING COMMITTEE AS IN
OTHER TWO FUSION IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENTS. DOES THE
U.S. AGREE?

E. PALUMBO BELIEVES THAT A MEETING OF THE FULL IEA FUSION
POWER COORDINATING COMMITTEE, AS OPPOSED TO AN AD HOC
MEETING LIMITED TO THE INS AGREEMENT PARTICIPANTS, IS
CALLED FOR TO GIVE OTHER COUNTRIES THE CHANCE TO
PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW PROJECT. DOES THE U.S. AGREE?
IF SO, IT COULD BE HELD IN MAY, OR AFTER THE SUMMER
VACATION PERIOD (JULY AND AUGUST). WHAT IS PREFERENCE?
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3. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EC COMMITTEE OF DIRECTORS FOR
THE EC FUSION PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 14. IT WOULD
BE MOST HELPFUL IF ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS COULD BE
PROVIDED PRIOR TO THAT TIME. MORRIS

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